

13. *Exocoetus cyanopterus*, C. & V. Brazil.
14. *Conger vulgaris*, Cuv., var. *nigra*. Europe, South America, East Ind. archipel., Japan, Tasmania.
15. *Congromuræna mellissii*, sp. n.
16. *Ophichthys regius*, Shaw. St. Helena.
17. *Myroconger compressus*, g. et sp. n.
18. *Muræna flavopicta*, Kaup. Tropical Atlantic.
19. *Muræna sanctæ helenæ*, sp. n.
20. *Muræna moringa*, Cuv. Tropical Atlantic.
21. *Muræna unicolor*, De la Roche. Mediterr., Madeira.

The new *Chætodon* may be described as follows:—

CHÆTODON DICHROUS. (Plate XVI.)

D. $\frac{12}{20}$. A. $\frac{3}{15}$. L. lat. 53.

Snout rather produced, a little longer than the eye, with the upper profile concave; præoperculum slightly serrated. Dorsal spines strong, the third and fourth the longest, two-thirds of the length of the head; the soft portion of the dorsal and anal fins low, rounded. Body bicoloured—the anterior parts to the fourth dorsal spine and the lower half of the fish being uniform brown, the remainder (tail and caudal fins included) pinkish white. The scales of the lateral line silvery.

There is only one example of this remarkable species in the collection; it is 5 inches long.

5. Further Contributions to the Ichthyology of Zanzibar.

By Lieut.-Col. R. L. PLAYFAIR, H.B.M. Consul-General in Algeria. With a Note by Dr. A. GÜNTHER.

A large cask of fishes was lately sent to me by Dr. Kirk from Zanzibar; but, for want of adequate accommodation for examining so extensive a collection, I was compelled, after a single cursory inspection, to close the cask again and send it to the British Museum. I, however, kept a few small specimens; and amongst these I find one new species, and two others which I had not before observed on the east coast of Africa. They are:—

ANTENNARIUS NIGROMACULATUS, sp. n.

D. 3|12. A. 7. P. 10.

It is not without considerable reluctance that I venture to describe a new species of *Antennarius* with the limited means of identification at my disposal in Algeria; but this specimen differs so distinctly from all I have observed at Zanzibar and Seychelles, and from all that I can find recorded, that I am inclined to regard it as an undescribed species.

Diagnosis.—Cleft of mouth subvertical and ascending in an oblique line, slightly inclined backwards. Length of maxillary bone one-

sixth that of the body. Anterior dorsal spine filiform, terminating in a lanceolate trifold (or fringed?) lobe; its length is more than twice that of the second spine, which is about one-half that of the third. The third is remote from the soft dorsal, but connected with it by a low cutaneous fold. The end of the soft dorsal is remote from the base of the caudal; it is quite unconnected with it, and the last ray does not reach so far if laid backwards; anal not half the length of the soft dorsal. There are a few very minute tentacles on the lower jaw, but none on the body. A cutaneous fold runs along the sides a little distance below and parallel to the base of the soft dorsal, than which it is somewhat shorter. Skin rough, covered with minute spines.

Colour.—Ground-colour brownish, a large black patch extending over the whole of the abdominal region; other smaller mass-like patches below chin, on sides of head, on upper part of body, soft dorsal, anal, and across the tail; these sometimes anamostose and enclose spots of the ground-colour; several round ocelli above base of pectorals and on base of dorsal; all the patches and ocelli have light edges, as also have the pectoral and ventral fins.

Length 4 inches.

DIAGRAMMA ORIENTALE.

Anthias orientalis, Bl. t. 326. f. 3.

Serranus orientalis, Cuv. & Val. ii. p. 318.

Diagramma orientale, Cuv. & Val. v. p. 299, pl. 124; Günth. Fish. i. p. 326.

D. sibbaldii, Benn. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1832, p. 182.

Zanzibar. Seas of Ceylon and Bali.

PROSOPODASYS LEUCOGASTER.

Prosopodasys leucogaster, Richardson, Voy. Samarang, Zool. Fish. pl. 5. f. 1, 2; Günth. Fish. ii. p. 141.

Height of body less than length of head, and one-fourth of total. Lower jaw slightly prominent, cleft of mouth oblique; maxillary reaches slightly beyond centre of eye. Interorbital space much less than orbit. Præorbital with two spines, of which the first is rather small, and the second very long. Infraorbital with bony ridges, but no distinct spine. Præoperculum with five spines; the interoperculum with one, and the operculum with two bony ridges. The first dorsal spine is situated before the posterior of orbit; it and the two succeeding ones are contiguous with, but rather remote from, the remainder; the third is the longest; the fourth is situated above the opercular margin. Caudal acutely rounded. Ventrals reaching to the vent, and pectorals much beyond it. Head and body naked.

Colour brownish, marbled with darker and lighter. Upper part of head black; a black spot on spinous dorsal between fifth and eighth spine.

Length $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Zanzibar.

Addendum. By Dr. A. GÜNTHER.

Col. Playfair has sent to the British Museum, besides the fishes described in the preceding paper, an example of a small Labroid fish, which he regarded as a new species of *Labrichthys*, requesting me to examine it also. It proves to be identical with *Labrichthys cyanotænia* of Bleeker; but it would have been difficult to recognize it from Bleeker's description, as he has omitted to say that the ground-colour of examples preserved in spirits changes into black. Beside an example sent by Dr. Bleeker as *L. cyanotænia*, the British Museum possesses an example of *Thysanochilus ornatus* of Kner. This I find is identical with the Zanzibar fish, although it appears really to be the type of a distinct genus closely allied to *Labroides*, for which the name proposed by Kner ought to be retained. The synonymy is:—

THYSANOCHILUS CYANOTÆNIA.

Labrichthys cyanotænia, Blkr.

Thysanochilus ornatus, Kner.

Samoa Islands, Flores, Zanzibar.

Specimens in the British Museum:—

- a. $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Samoa Islands. Type of *Th. ornatus*.
- b. $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Flores? (*L. cyanotænia*.)
- c. $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Zanzibar.

6. Notes on the Common Grey Hornbill of India (*Meniceros bicornis*). By C. HORNE, F.Z.S.

Dr. Jerdon, in his 'Birds of India' (vol. i. p. 244), has briefly sketched the habits of the Hōmrai, or Great Hornbill, and allusion is there made to its curious custom of building-up its mate in the hole of a tree for the purposes of incubation; and I observe that Mr. Wallace, in an interesting article in the 'Intellectual Observer' (June 1863), states that a similar habit has been observed in at least three species, including that under notice.

Dr. Jerdon also quotes Major S. R. Tickell as having "seen this with his own eyes."

The number of observers must of necessity have been very small who have had the opportunity of watching the process of nidification; and as I only last year was so fortunate, I have deemed the subject worthy of a note.

The beak, neck, and tail of this bird being long, and the wings comparatively short, its flight is rather undulating, accompanied by frequent flapping of the wings, as the bird traverses the short distance from grove to grove in search of its favourite food, the fig of the Peepul tree (*Ficus religiosa*). Moreover, as during its flight it often utters its harsh note, it is a bird which attracts the notice of the most casual observer. It often flies in threes; and a visit from